

Old State House  
Court Street  
Portsmouth  
Rockingham County  
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-98

HABS  
NH,  
8-PORT,  
132-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS  
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132-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE New Hampshire	COUNTY Rockingham	TOWN OR VICINITY Portsmouth
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Old State House		HABS NO. NH-98
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Court Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1758	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Housed the King's Council, House of Representatives, and the Courts of Common Law.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Georgian		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Timber		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 30 feet wide and 84 feet long with 21 foot posts, rested upon an outcrop of rock.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The window casings and the door casings have survived unchanged.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) The old hip rafters, purlins, and common rafters are still in place in the roof. The two surviving dormers are original.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES At remodeling in 1966, many new elements were introduced, including window sash, chimneys, and mantelpieces, partitions, and Greek Revival entrance at the front of the structure.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE The fortunate preservation of features make the task of reproducing the missing two-thirds of the building relatively easy.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE When the surviving remnant was relocated on Court Street, it was converted into a dwelling.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) <u>Strawbery Banke in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Strawberry Banke, Inc., 1966.</u>		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Mary Buckley, Architectural Historian HABS		DATE July 5, 1983